



Call for Expression of Interest Tech4Asylum 2026 – Translation & Transcription Technologies

The European Union Agency for Asylum (EUAA) is organising the first edition of Tech4Asylum, bringing together asylum authorities, EU and international stakeholders and technology providers.

Focus of the Event

Tech4Asylum 2026 will focus on practical applications of **translation and transcription technologies** across different stages of the asylum process.

The event will combine:

- policy and operational perspectives from Member States;
- relevant initiatives from the EU stakeholders;
- technical presentations and demonstrations from industry.

Format

The event will take place in-person in Malta on Wednesday 2 December 2026 (full day).

The event will combine:

- **plenary sessions** (presentations),
- **demo rounds** (short, structured presentations by industry),
- **interactive Q&A sessions**,
- **networking opportunities**.

All selected presenters will be given equal visibility and presentation time, ensuring a fair and balanced exchange.

Background

Communication barriers—particularly the availability of interpreters, the cost of language services, and the need for accurate, consistent information exchange—remain among the most persistent obstacles in asylum workflows.

The asylum landscape in the EU+ countries is undergoing a significant transformation with the implementation of the Pact on Migration and Asylum, which introduces among others new procedural models, shorter timelines, and strengthened cooperation obligations across Member States. These changes intensify long-standing communication and linguistic challenges in asylum workflows and make the strategic use of translation and transcription technologies more necessary than ever.

Under the Pact, accelerated and border procedures become more prominent, both characterised by strict and significantly shorter time limits for issuing decisions. Such time limits push the asylum authorities to seek efficiency gains where possible, without undermining the procedural safeguards. Automation of translation and transcription services is an area with a potential of a considerable efficiency gain.

One of the most important changes introduced by the Pact is the mandatory audio-recording of personal interviews. While this improves transparency and helps ensure the integrity of interviews, it also introduces significant new operational workloads if authorities must manually transcribe, review or summarize recordings, particularly given the multilingual setup in asylum interviews.

The Pact also introduces stronger obligations for information exchange between Member States, especially in the context of subsequent applications, responsibility determination, and checks for previous procedures in other EU+ countries. Machine translation of previous case files in other EU+ languages can allow asylum authorities to clarify inconsistencies between procedures, contributing to fair, timely and informed decision-making.

Automated translation of written materials (e.g. information materials, interview transcripts, decisions) can help ensure that applicants fully understand their rights and enhance their participation in the asylum procedure. Applicants can also benefit from real-time or near-real-time transcription, contributing to fairness and transparency.

In such compressed workflows, delays caused by interpreter/translator unavailability, inconsistent note-taking can directly impact procedural quality and legal compliance. At the same time, rapid advances in translation, transcription, and speech-to-text technologies, including AI-powered solutions, offer unprecedented opportunities to:

- improve accessibility and accuracy of interviews, documentation, and case handling;
- reduce reliance on scarce interpretation and translation resources;
- shorten processing times;
- strengthen consistency and quality of information sharing across Member States;
- ensure compliance with new regulatory standards, including the EU AI Act.

However, the asylum and migration domain have specific requirements—high-stakes decision-making, multilingual environments, the need for human oversight, compliance with relevant legislation and bias mitigation.

Objectives

The overarching objective of Tech4Asylum 2026 is to promote informed, responsible and operational uptake of translation and transcription technologies in asylum and migration workflows across the EU+.

Scope of the Call

EUAA invites companies to present:

- Machine translation/interpretation solutions
- Automated transcription/speech-to-text solutions

Attendance in person to industry representatives is limited to two people per company. Please also note that EUAA does not cover the costs associated with your participation in the event.

Selection Procedure

The procedure follows principles of:

- Equal treatment
- Non-discrimination
- Transparency

To be considered, solutions must:

- provide translation and/or transcription functionality;
- be demonstrable during the event (at minimum as a mock-up or demo) in English;
- be relevant to public sector or multilingual communication contexts.

Submissions that do not meet these requirements will not be evaluated further.

The evaluation criteria include:

1. **Relevance to Tech4Asylum topic:** The extent to which the solution supports translation and/or transcription in asylum or similar multilingual public sector workflows.
2. **Added value for asylum authorities:** The extent to which the solution can support real operational needs, such as handling interviews, documents, or recordings, and improve usability or efficiency while ensuring compliance with the relevant EU legislation such as GDPR and EU AI Act.
3. **Clarity and quality of the proposal:** The proposal clearly explains:
 - a. What the solution does to meet the needs of asylum and migration authorities,
 - b. How it works in simple terms,
 - c. What will be demonstrated during the event.
4. **Practical or innovative contribution:** The extent to which the solution demonstrates:
 - a. a practical feature solving a real problem, and/or
 - b. a new or improved approach (e.g. automation, workflow simplification, ease of use)
5. **Feasibility within the event format:** The extent to which the solution can be clearly demonstrated within the time and format of the event (e.g. live demo or realistic scenario).

Vendors are encouraged to:

- Keep submissions clear and concise;
- Focus on real use cases and demonstrations;
- Avoid overly technical descriptions unless necessary to explain functionality;
- Contact the [Digital Innovation Team](#) at EUAA in case of any doubts regarding the evaluation criteria, the scope of the event, or the fit of the solution or technology for Tech4Asylum.

APPLICATION FORM



<https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/Tech4Asylum-2026-Vendor-Registration>

The call for expressions of interest will be open until 12 July 2026.

The EUAA will review the applications and inform the companies by 27 July 2026.